



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA MAN SENTENCED TO 24 YEARS IN PRISON FOR CRACK COCAINE, ILLEGAL FIREARM

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Columbia, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and an illegal firearm.

Marvin Louis Hayes, 36, of Columbia, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O.Wright this morning to 24 years and four months in federal prison without parole. Because Hayes has two prior convictions for crimes of violence, Graves added, he was sentenced as a career criminal.

On June 22, 2006, **Hayes** pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine in Boone County, Mo., on June 23, 2004. **Hayes** also pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. **Hayes** admitted that he was in possession of a loaded Jennings 9 mm pistol on June 23, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Hayes** has 1994 criminal felony convictions for unlawful use of a weapon and escape from custody in Cooper County, Mo., and a 1989 criminal felony conviction for robbery in Boone County.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney C. Douglas Shull. It was investigated by the Columbia, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri Division of Family Services and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html